STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

Chairman
Christian Sauer

Vice-Chairman
John Takach

Secretary
Rhonda Villanova

Members
Joe Boucher
Jacob Cawthorn
Christian Cuthbert
Paul Fiasconaro
Sara Landon
James Lavey
John O'Shaughnessy
Robert Poggie
Cheryl Samborski
Bruce Warkentin
Student Representative
Kashish Koul
Aarush Kumar
Logan Takach

May 14, 2025

Present: Chris Sauer, Joseph Boucher, John Takach, Bruce Warkentin, Rhonda Villanova, Christian Cuthbert, and James Lavey

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chris Sauer

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Meeting Minutes:
Motion to approve April 22, 2025 meeting minutes: Boucher 1st, Takach 2nd; all in favor with noted corrections, motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:
Chris Sauer noted the permits for the parades are all in place. The fly-over is set. The tractor offered by Lori Spielman will be at both parades.

John Takach reported the fly-over time was confirmed for 12:15 by Paul Fiasconaro. Confirmation was received from Sara Landon for ANG marchers. Flag-bearers will be recruited from the Scouts or other group. The Vernon Color Guard will be participating in the town center parade. Logan Takach will be taking care of a speaker on the high school stage and a light for the podium.

Rhonda Villanova will be finalizing programs and updating the script. She will forward to the committee for final proofing and to inform them of order of events.

Bruce Warkentin has not heard back from the high school for a reader for Logan's Order. He will recontact.

RSVPs have been received from Crystal Lake Methodist Church/Pastor Wendy Young and Baptist Church/Pastor William Diggins for participation in ceremonies.

Christian Cuthbert confirmed Chaplain Ray Dupere for special speaker. John Takach offered to write the bio for the Chaplain to be included in the introduction based on materials provided.

Confirmation received from Mr. Diamond of 16 EHS singers for National Anthem for the town green. There will be about 10 singers in the Drop the Bass group for TAPS for the high school ceremony. Steven Villanova is confirmed to sing National Anthem for Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Joe Boucher and James Lavey will be setting up at the high school pre-ceremony.

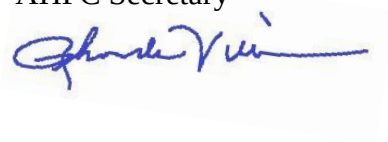
Joe Boucher will be placing stakes for the Line of March at the high school.

Chris Sauer stated the volleys will be performed with the older rifles. They have been cleaned and oiled. The committee should look into upgrading them over the coming year. It might also be possible to contact UConn ROTC for next year.

New Business:
The next America 250 meeting is scheduled for May19th at 7:00 p.m., in the upstairs Children's Room at Hall Memorial Library.

The Veteran Banner presentation will take place on May 22nd at 10:30 a.m. in Arbor Park. Two Veterans of our town Roll Call are included in this first round of banners.

Motion to adjourn: Boucher 1st, Takach 2nd; all in favor, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room unless notified otherwise.

Submitted by:
Rhonda Villanova
AHPC Secretary